

**DXer**

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**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA  
DX CLUB**

**March 15, 2007**-Come join us for another great gathering of fellow club members which includes full range DX interest and experience! This monthly meeting presentation will be: **“600N-Somalia, 2006 Dxpediton by the Italian Team.** It is unique as it was very

dangerous for the operators who had to carry their own machine guns. There were about 34,986 contacts. When you watch this CD presentation keep you eye on the way they kept tract of the beam direction. The beginning of the CD has them leaving Italy with their equipment and arriving at the Mogadishu, the capitol of Somalia. The Dxpediton was dedicated to Adan, 600N, who came to his death in an auto accident a short time after the Dxpediton. All of the operators are trying to raise money to help the children of Somalia.

**Big News for Those Who are Planning to Bring their RV to Visalia!** The cost has been **reduced** to a total of \$30.00 for up to 4 nights! So if you are comfortable in your camper home you might like to call and reserve your space. The number is: Brian Lancaster in the Holiday Inn Sales Office at 559-651-5000x2608 or e-mail him at [blancaster@altamonthotels.com](mailto:blancaster@altamonthotels.com).

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March Monthly Meeting will be March 15th at Harry's Hofbrau Redwood City Food 6:00-7:30 Meeting Follows At 7:30 Hope to see you there!

**Deadline For April contributions is April 5, 2007**

**See you March 15<sup>th</sup>!**

**March, 2007**

# Northern California DX Club

## Club Officers:

President: John Eisenberg, K6YP  
Vice Pres: Risto Kotlampi, W6RK  
Secretary: Mike Gavin, W6WZ  
Treasurer: Steve Jones, N6SJ  
Director: Curt Kolovson, W6RQ  
Director: Jim Abraham, W6EB  
Director: Dewey Churchill, KG6AM

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9-Band Award: John Brand, K6WC

Contests: Dick Courtway, N7RC

California Award: Robert Bickel, K6FX

Records Manager: Ron Panton, W6VG

Publications Mgr: Ron Panton, W6VG

## Club Repeater, W6TI/R

Frequency/offset: 147.360 Mhz +, pl 110.9

Trustee: Bob Vallio, W6RGG

Control Operator: Robert Smithwick, W6CS

Maintenance: Peter Grabosky, W6OOL

Club simplex: 147.54 MHz (suggested)

Thurs. Net OTR: 8 pm local time.

Net Manager: Randy Wright, W6CUA

DX News: Net Control Operator

Swap Shop: Jim Abraham, W6EB

## W6TI DX Bulletins:

W6TI Station Trustee Bob Vallio, W6RGG, transmits DX information at 0200 UT every Monday (Sunday evening local time) on both 7.016 and 14.002 MHz.

## Club address: Box 608

Menlo Park, CA  
94026-0608

The *DXer* is published monthly by the Northern California DX Club and sent to all club members on the web. Unless otherwise noted, NCDXC permits re-use of any article in this publication—provided The *DXer* and the article's author are credited.

## President's Comments

Dear NCDXC Members,

As I write this the ARRL DX Contest is going on in the background. It seems a bit of a let down compared to the great DX that has been on the bands in the past few months. I keep watching the spots in hopes that an SV5 will pop up at a time when the path to the Greek Islands is open on 20 meters.

I have really been enjoying our recent club meetings. Risto has lined up some wonderful programs for us. The club's new projector and screen are working well and making it possible for people to see from nearly anywhere in the room.

The NCDXC board met recently and approved a \$500.00 contribution to NCDXF. NCDXF sponsors the vast majority of major Dxpeditions we all enjoy working including the upcoming BS7 operation. The board has appointed a committee to nominate candidates for the club member of the year. A vote for the CMOTY will be taken at our March 15 meeting. Please attend.

Visalia is continuing to shape up. Curt Kolovson, W6RQ and Mitch Cipriano, AE6AI have outdone themselves on obtaining major prizes for Visalia. Our raffle features over \$25,000 in prizes including an ICOM Pro 111, two IC-7000's, a Yaesu FT 2000, a Kenwood TS2000, a Toyko High Power 1kW amp, a 4 element SteppIR beam, a M2 KT34 beam, a US Tower MA40 crankup tower, an Alpha 4510 wattmeter and much more.

The program is also a winner with both a DX and contest forum, programs on seven major DX operations as well as a bevy of great talks aimed at mentoring Dxers both new and old. You can find out more about the Convention at [www.convention.org](http://www.convention.org) On the website you will find updated info on the Saturday Spouses Tour, the program, the raffle, exhibitors, and a current list of who is coming. IDXC-2007 is going to be one of the best ever! Please make plans to join your friends in Visalia!

Best 73, John K6YP

## Editor's Reflections.....

Fellow Dxers and Friends, Well, today, March 1<sup>st</sup> has been a huge day for Mike and me. Our daughter, Dyanne, who has suffered for 14 years with a very rare and complicated disease called "Tri-geminal Neuralgia" (worst pain known to man) had a Gamma Knife non-invasive shooting of electrons into her brain, hoping to destroy the nerve that causes the PAIN procedure done today at UCSF, San Francisco. We will not know if it was successful for 4-6 weeks or more. There is a 50-50 per cent chance that she will be pain free for some months or years. All unknown. All of this makes her, her son and us on edge all the time. Enough of this personal info, but things like this do affect all those involved.

Well, we certainly have not been without DX in the last month. Mike and I have worked quite a few stations recently. In fact I just left the shack where I had a QSO with John, VP8KF, from the Falkland Islands. Since I originally began this newsletter, Mike and I have enjoyed 3 beautiful days at Monterey, March 7, 8 and 9. Our daughter's results are still in question. See you fellow hams in Visalia! Carolyn, WB6ABC



## Welcome New Members:

1. Ron Ness, W6JXH
2. Jim Davis' correct call is NN6EE (wrong in Feb. newsletter)

**Thank you Dave Gomberg, NE5EE** for the presentation at our February 15 NCDXC meeting. While there seemed to be some fellow club members who had varying opinions as to which layers do what, this provoked some interesting discussion about propagation. The presentation showed why 80m and 160m work better in darkness. It's great to have a new member share his knowledge in as simply a way as you did.

## A Visit to K6MD's QTH

Mike and I had the opportunity to have a visit with Jerry Griffin, K6MD, last week, on March 8<sup>th</sup> during a great 3 day holiday we spent at Monterey. His home is in Pacific Grove, 1/2 block from the ocean. It is a beautiful historic house with all kinds of interesting rooms, antiques and, of course, his shack. He will be one of our speakers at Visalia next month. Jerry is retired from the U.S. Army with the rank of Brigadier General. Jerry, an M.D., served both in Desert Storm and Iraq as the head of a medical unit. He has been licensed for over 50 years and his collections include lots of neat rigs, keys, photos, cards, etc. Thanks, Jerry, for the great hospitality.



Jerry's Shack



Carolyn, Jerry's his home



Jerry's auto plate-Notice K6MD loves DX!

## **Am-Tech Day will be Saturday March 17, FROM 8:00AM TO 9:00 PM.**

This is a great opportunity to meet old and new friends in the outdoors/indoors at Stanford Linear Accelerator Center in Menlo Park off Sand Hill Road. There will be several speakers including our own Kristin, K6WX who will speak on Radio Frequency (RF) Propagation at 1:00 PM, Neil Hays, W6FOG, will present, DXpeditioning from Jamaica at 2:00 PM, and Rick Huisman, N6DQ, will present "Internet Radio" at 3:00PM. Wow! What a variety of programs to experience.

**THE SITE IS BEAUTIFUL, THE COMPANY IS DIVERSE, AND ALL PARTICIPANTS ENJOY HAM RADIO! YOU CAN ELMER OR BE ELMERED. SEE YOU SATURDAY!!**

## Visalia Update- International DX Convention-April 27, 8, 29.

This year this special event is sponsored by the Northern California DX Club. The conventions are shared every other year by the Northern and Southern DX Clubs. You can view the details of all kinds on the NCDXC website which includes the programs, events (banquets, etc.), raffle prizes and who's coming?

At this point we have 400 plus who have registered, but we expect between 600-700 attendees. **Be sure** to join us if you are a member of either club, but especially the NCDXC. We want and need everyone's participation to ensure others to rally to our enthusiasm and join together for this very special event!!!

Our February IDXC meeting was held at our president's home on Feb.18 . It was attended by John, K6YP, Mike, W6WZ, Carolyn, WB6ABC, Risto, W6RK, George, W6YD, Kurt, W6RQ, Mitch, AE6AI, Dick, W6KM, Jim, W6EB, and Bob Davies, K7BHM, who came to join us from Arizona. Our agenda included all areas concerning our up and coming IDXC. So we discussed:

1. Registration/Treasurer's Report-Dick Lietrich
2. Program Report-Bob Davies
3. Publicity/Publications-George Allan
4. Major/Minor Prizes-Mitch Cipriano
5. Vendor Relations-Curt Kolovson
6. Special Event Station-Curt Kolovson Steve Jones Mike Higgins
7. Website-Risto Kotolampi
8. Raffle-Carolyn and Mike Gavin
9. Prizes-Jim Abraham
10. Master of Ceremonies-Chip Margelli
11. C0-Chairs-John Eisenberg and Steve Jones

The group discussed all of the above connected to Chip Margelli who was on telecon speaker phone. All presented their progress in their particular area of the convention responsibilities. Again Joanie and John Eisenberg were very special hosts attending to all of our comforts and needs!! Thank you one more time fellow member and special spouse.



The above photo shows the whole group sitting at our meeting table in very pleasant and comfortable surroundings. Thank you John and Joanie.



John, George, and Risto making some important decisions just before we end the meeting and leave for the day.



Mitch and Dick trying to figure out some final thoughts before ending our February input for Visalia, 2007.

## Right in A Redwood City Backyard Fellow Hams Helped to Do What Hams Do Better Than Most People!

Mike, W6WZ has a fellow ham buddie, George, NT6G, who is legally blind and his antenna came down in a January storm. So Mike let it be known on the local Stanford 145.230 2 meter repeater and help came forward as is expected in the ham world. In the last week work has been done by several hams and some professional roofers. Doug, KG6LWE, came forward and volunteered. So he and Mike, W6WZ rebuilt the GAP antenna which had fallen.

It was decided by George, NT6G, that since the antenna was to be strapped to a chimney that it would be wise to employ the roofers. So the antenna was re-installed on Saturday, March 3 so George is now a happy ham again. On March 10<sup>th</sup> Andreas, N6NU, helped as well with adjusting the guy lines.



Doug, KG6LWE, and George, NT6G meet to look over the job.



Doug and two professional roofers work together to re-install the antenna.



George views at the window with safety in mind. Roofer is 40 ft. up!!



Mike, W6WZ, Marlene, Doug's XYL, Doug, George, Kate, George's XYL and Carolyn, Mike's XYL, WB6ABC at dinner-George's treat.



**When: Thursday, March 15, 2007**

**Food and Socializing from 6:00-7:30**

**Where: Harry's Hofbrau-Redwood City**

**What: DVD 600N-Somalia, 2006 DXpedition**

**What else?: Here are our current prizes for our March Raffle!**

**1<sup>st</sup> Prize-Yaesu VX-2R/E-World's Smallest Dual Band HT-2m-440  
1.5 watts-Rechargable Lithium-Ion Battery with Charger**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Prize-ECG Variable Wattage Soldering Iron 25-60 watts**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Prize- WIND-UP Flashlight-Energy Saving-It will provide 1  
hour of bright light after 1 minute of winding.**

**4<sup>th</sup> Prize- Pit Bull Crimpers-5 inch-Clamp, Cutter, Stripper,  
Lock**

**5<sup>th</sup> Prize- Digital Multimeter**

**3 Door Prizes**-All meeting attendees receive a free raffle ticket at the door for the following 3 prizes:

1. Handy Keychain Light
2. Keychain Compass
3. Kenwood Log Book

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- Advanced CW functions
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**The Ultimate Radio!**

## ALINCO



**DJ-196T** 2M/HT

- 5 Watt out
- 40 memories
- Alphanumeric display
- CTCSS + DCS built in
- "S" meter
- Auto Dialer

**Low Pricing!**



**DR-135TP** 2M mobile

- 50 Watt out • Alpha numeric display
- 100 memos • Built-in TNC 1200 & 9600 Baud
- Front Panel GPS in • Rear DB-9 port
- CTCSS/DCS Encode/Decode built in

**Low Pricing!**

Thank You, HRO!  
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